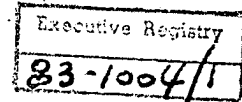


Page Denied

**MAR 21 1983**

Honorable William J. Casey
Director, Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, D.C. 20505

Dear Bill,

The President has decided to move forward on the recommendation of the Cabinet Council on Commerce and Trade (CCCT) regarding transfer of the civil operational weather, land, and future ocean satellites to the U.S. domestic private sector. To respond quickly to that decision, I have already initiated the necessary staff activities within the Department of Commerce.

I have asked Dr. Anthony J. Calio, Deputy Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, to chair an Interagency Board on Civil Operational Earth-Observing Satellite Systems (IB-COESS). That Board will review the procurement activities and legislation, as well as provide continuing oversight. I have also requested that agency representatives be policy officials at the Assistant Secretary level, and that alternates not be used. The Board will have working groups reporting to it that will include senior civil servants. I would appreciate your designating your representative to this Interagency Board.

The IB-COESS will be convened to develop a plan of activity in the very near future. Please submit the name of your designee to Dr. Calio at 377-3436 no later than March 24, 1983.

Thank you for your interest and support of this important activity.

Sincerely,

Secretary of Commerce

L309
XF A 105